

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A secondary battery comprising:

a positive electrode;

a negative electrode; and

an electrolyte[[.]]:

wherein the positive electrode includes a positive electrode mixture layer capable of occluding and releasing light metal;

wherein the negative electrode includes a negative electrode mixture layer capable of occluding and releasing light metal;

wherein a charge capacity of the negative electrode is expressed by a sum of a first capacity component by occluding and releasing light metal and a second capacity component by precipitating and dissolving light metal on said negative electrode at charging voltages below overcharging;

wherein a ratio (A/B) of a thickness A of the positive electrode mixture layer and a thickness B of the negative electrode mixture layer is 1.186 or more;

wherein each of the thickness A of the positive electrode mixture layer and the thickness B of the negative electrode mixture layer lies within a range of 80 μm to 250 μm , both inclusive;

wherein the negative electrode mixture layer contains a carbonaceous material;

wherein a charge capacity of the positive electrode is larger than the charge capacity of the negative electrode; and

wherein, when a voltage of the battery is lower than an overcharge voltage of the battery during charging of the battery, the light metal precipitates on a surface of the negative electrode after the charge capacity of the negative electrode has been exceeded; and

wherein the electrolyte contains a main nonaqueous solvent selected from the group consisting of ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, diethyl carbonate, methyl ethyl carbonate, and any mixture thereof.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the negative electrode mixture layer contains graphite.

5. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the light metal includes lithium.

6. (Original) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolyte contains LiPF_6 .

7. (Currently Amended) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolyte contains an ~~nonaqueous solvent and~~ electrolytic salt, where the concentration of the electrolytic salt in the nonaqueous solvent is 2.0 mol/kg or less.

8-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A secondary battery comprising:

a positive electrode;

a negative electrode; and

an electrolyte[],];

wherein the positive electrode includes a positive electrode mixture layer capable of occluding and releasing light metal,

wherein the negative electrode includes a negative electrode mixture layer capable of occluding and releasing light metal,

wherein a charge capacity of the negative electrode causes lithium to precipitate on the negative electrode before charging of the secondary battery is completed,

wherein a ratio (A/B) of a thickness A of the positive electrode mixture layer and a thickness B of the negative electrode mixture layer is 1.186 or more;

wherein each of the thickness A of the positive electrode mixture layer and the thickness B of the negative electrode mixture layer lies within a range of 80 μm to 250 μm , both inclusive;

wherein the negative electrode mixture layer contains a carbonaceous material; and

wherein a charge capacity of the positive electrode is larger than the charge capacity of the negative electrode; and

wherein the electrolyte contains a main nonaqueous solvent selected from the group consisting of ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, diethyl carbonate, methyl ethyl carbonate, and any mixture thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) A secondary battery comprising:

a positive electrode;

a negative electrode; and

an electrolyte[[,]];

wherein the positive electrode includes a positive electrode mixture layer capable of occluding and releasing light metal, wherein the negative electrode includes a negative electrode mixture layer capable of occluding and releasing light metal, wherein a charge capacity of the negative electrode causes lithium to precipitate on the negative electrode when an open circuit voltage of the battery is lower than an overcharge voltage, wherein a ratio (A/B) of a thickness A of the positive electrode mixture layer and a thickness B of the negative electrode mixture layer is 1.186 or more;

wherein each of the thickness A of the positive electrode mixture layer and the thickness B of the negative electrode mixture layer lies within the range of 80 μm to 250 μm , both inclusive;

wherein the negative electrode mixture layer contains a carbonaceous material; ~~and~~

wherein a charge capacity of the positive electrode is larger than the charge capacity of the negative electrode; and

wherein the electrolyte contains a main nonaqueous solvent selected from the group consisting of ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, diethyl carbonate, methyl ethyl carbonate, and any mixture thereof.

15. (Previously presented) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 4, wherein the negative electrode mixture layer includes natural graphite.

16. (Previously presented) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 13, wherein the carbonaceous material includes natural graphite.

17. (Previously presented) A secondary battery as claimed in claim 14, wherein the carbonaceous material includes natural graphite.